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May 23d.

The President, DR. BRIDGES, in the Chair.

Twenty-two members present.

The following paper was presented for publication: "An Examination of Birds of the Genus *Chrysomitris*, &c." By John Cassin.

Dr. Leidy called the attention of the members to specimens of *Gryphæa* and *Ostrea*, from the New Jersey Green-sand, presented this evening, as affording evidence of the existence of a boring sponge, during the Cretaceous period, which penetrated the shells in the same manner as at the present time.

In answer to a question, Dr. Storer stated that he had observed no true viviparous fishes on the Atlantic coast of the United States, but that *Sygnathus* carried its young in an abdominal pouch.

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May 30th.

The President, DR. BRIDGES, in the Chair.

Sixteen members present.

The Secretary announced the death, on the 6th inst., of Dr. Wm. Darrach, and on the 13th, of Mr. Fernando de la Cuesta, late members of the Academy.

On report of the respective Committees, the following papers were ordered to be published:

**Some Remarks on *LABRUS PULCHER* (Ayres.)**

BY ALBERT GÜNTHER, M. A., M. D., PH. D.

The March number of the Proceedings of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, 1864, page 57, contains a paper entitled, "Description of a new Labroid genus allied to *Trochocopus* (Gthr.), by Theodore Gill," in which the author states that he had been misled by me in considering the *Labrus pulcher* (Ayres) as a species of *Semicossyphus* (Gthr.), but having received a specimen of this fish, found "that it has not the 'lateral teeth distinct,' as in *Semicossyphus*, but an 'obtuse osseous ridge round the edge of the jaws without distinct lateral teeth,' as in *Trochocopus* (Gthr.), to which Günther should have referred it." A single glance at pp. 99 and 100 of the fourth volume of my "Catalogue of Fishes," will show that Mr. Gill inverts the characters given by me to those genera. However, his description of the teeth of this fish (p. 58) is distinct enough; and I have no doubt that I should have referred it to *Trochocopus*, if I had seen it.

But a few lines further, the author goes on to say: "I (Mr. Gill) previously followed him, (Dr. G.), as he was acquainted with *Semicossyphus* and *Trochocopus* through autopsy, while I was not." This is not correct, as will be perfectly evident on turning to p. 99 of the volume mentioned, where no reference whatever is made to a specimen contained in our collection, and as is curiously enough acknowledged by Mr. Gill himself on the following page, (p. 59 of his paper), where he says, contradicting himself, that Dr. Günther "was acquainted with neither (viz., *Semicossyphus* and *Trochocopus darwini*) through autopsy."

1865.]